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PATENT  
Customer No. 22,852  
Attorney Docket No. 01198.0280

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of:	)	
	)	
Youji NAGASHIMA et al.	)	Group Art Unit: 3612
	)	
Application No.: 10/809,410	)	Examiner: Not Assigned
	)	
Filed: March 2004	)	
	)	
For: SLIDING ROOF DEVICE FOR	)	Confirmation No.: 6809
VEHICLE	)	

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)**

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(b), applicant brings to the attention of the Examiner the documents listed on the attached PTO 1449. To the best of undersigned's knowledge, this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits for the above-referenced application. Further, each document listed in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign Patent Office in a counterpart foreign application, and this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the mailing date of that communication.

Copies of the listed documents are attached.

Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner consider the listed documents and indicate that they were considered by making appropriate notations on the attached form.

An English Abstract of the non-English document is enclosed.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies any of the documents as prior art against any claim in the application and applicant determines that the cited documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, applicant reserves the right to present to the Patent and Trademark Office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents.

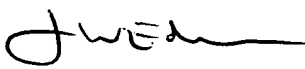
Applicant further reserves the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

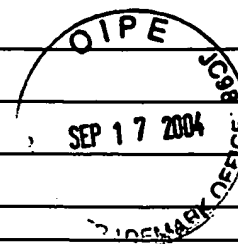
FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,  
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: September 17, 2004

By:   
James W. Edmondson  
Reg. No. 33,871

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION

Atty. Docket No.	01198.0280	Appln. No.	10/809,410
Applicant	Youji NAGASHIMA et al.		
Filing Date	March 26, 2004	Group:	3612



## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial*	Document Number	Issue Date	Name	Class	Sub Class	Filing Date If Appropriate
	6,431,644	08/13/02	Nagashima			

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Document Number	Publication Date	Country	Class	Sub Class	Translation Yes or No
2001-280428	10/10/01	Japan			Abstract

## OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

European Search Report dated July 29, 2004

Examiner	Date Considered
*Examiner: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.	
Form PTO 1449	Patent and Trademark Office - U.S. Department of Commerce